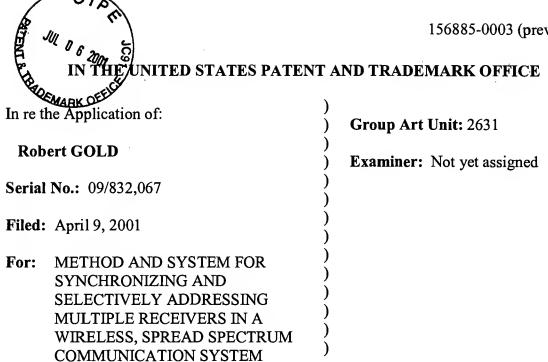
Patent 156885-0003 (prev. 258/303)



INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)(3)

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §§ 1.97 and 1.98, this Information Disclosure Statement is submitted for the purpose of bringing to the attention of the Office the items listed in the accompanying Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed items are provided for the convenience of the Examiner. The Examiner is requested to consider and make these items of information of official record in the Application.

The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56 and the submission thereof by Applicants shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein, or any combination thereof, is material or considered to be material (37 CFR §1.97(h)) or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC §102 or §103 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such.

Furthermore, the submission of the above listed items is not to be construed as a representation that an exhaustive search, or any search, has been made, or that additional information material to the examination of this Application does not exist.

Patent 156885-0003 (prev. 258/303)

This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted under 37 CFR §1.97(b)(1) and (3), that is, within the first three months of filing and before the first Office Action on the merits. Thus, no petition or fee is required. However, if the undersigned representative of Applicant is in error in this regard, then the Examiner is requested to consider this IDS as filed under §1.97(c) and is further authorized to charge any fee required by its filing to Deposit Account No. 09-0946.

Dated: July 3, 2001

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher A. Vanderlaan Registration No. 37,747

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